

Message Text

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42

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 NSC-07 DODE-00 CIAE-00 PM-07

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AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

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AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY MADRID

CINCEUR

USNMR SHAPE

USDOCO SOUTH

CINCLANT

CINCNAVEUR

CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG

USLOSACLANT NORVA

CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN

USMISSION NATO

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: NATO, MARR, GW, DA

SUBJ: DANISH-GERMAN AGREEMENT ON COMMAND OF COMNAVBTAP

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REF: BONN A-453

1. DURING MY CALL SEPT 18 ON DEFENSE MINISTER BRONDUM (ALSO SEE SEPTELS), I ENQUIRED AS TO THE CORRECTNESS OF PRESS REPORTS CONCERNING THE RESOLUTUION OF THE GERMAN-DANISH DISPUTE OVER THE COMNAVBALTAP POSITION. BRONDUM REPLIED THAT HE WAS HAPPY TO CONFIRM THAT THIS WAS THE CASE. A DANISH ADMIRAL WILL TAKE OVER THE JOB OCTOBER 1. BRONDUM SAID THAT HE HAD MET WITH GERMAN DEFMIN LEBER ON SEPT 16 IN SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN AND REACHED AN UNDERSTANDING. BRONDUM ADDED THAT THE WHOLE AFFAIR HAD BEEN AN UNFORTUNATE ONE BASED ON EARLIER MISUNDERSTANDINGS AND PERHAPS FAILURE BY THE DANES TO CLARIFY FULLY THEIR OWN INTENTIONS.

2. THE OSLO AGREEMENT OF 1961 WILL CONTINUE TO BE HONORED. THIS MEANS THAT A GERMAN WILL FILL THE POSITION OF COMMANDER ALLIED LAND FORCES IN SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN UNTIL OCTOBER 1, 1976. WMEN HE IS THEN REPLACED BY A DANISH GENERAL, A GERMAN ADMIRAL WILL TAKE OVER THE POSITION AS COMNAVBALTAP. AFTER THAT, ROTATION WILL OCCUR EVERY THIRD YEAR.

3. AS OF 1977, COMMANDER OF ALLIED AIR FORCES, A POST SO FAR HELD BY A DANISH OFFICER, WILL ALSO ROTATE TO THE GERMANS. UNTIL SOME YEARS AGO, NO GERMAN AIRCRAFT HAD BEEN ASSIGNED TO THE AIR COMMAND. HENCE ALL THREE JOBS (LAND, SEA AND AIR) WILL BE FILLED ON A ROTATIONAL BASIS BUT WITH NO MORE THAN TWO OCCUPIED AT ANY ONE TIME BY ONE NATIONALITY.

4. COMMENT: IN A SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATION, A SENIOR MINDEF OFFICIAL CONFIRMED TO THE POLCOUNS THAT THE DANES ARE NOW SOMEWHAT EMBARRASSED AFTER ALL THE FUROR BECAUSE THEY HAVE NOT YET BEEN ABLE TO IDENTIFY AND DESIGNATE THE OFFICER WHO IS TO TAKE UP THE POST IN KIEL IN LESS THAN TWO WEEKS.
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